

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the requirements of ARM 17.24.1135(3), notice is hereby given that the Department of Environmental Quality has scheduled a public hearing in response to Western Energy Company's proposal to relocate just over 1 mile of the Horse Creek road (County Road 401) and the junction between Castle Rock road (also county Road 401) and Farley Loop (County Road E402). The portions of road to be relocated are in Rosebud County, west of Colstrip, Montana, in Township 1N, Range 40 East, Section 6 and Township 2 North, Range 39 East, Sections 33, 34, and 35. The Horse Creek road is proposed to be relocated outside of Western Energy Company's mine permit area known as Area C West. The majority of the new road would be relocated approximately 1,700 feet to the north of the existing road into Section 27 of Township 2 North, Range 39 East.

The hearing will provide interested persons an opportunity to provide testimony concerning the proposed relocation. Questions and comments received at the hearing will be used to determine if the interests of the public and affected landowners will be protected. The hearing will be held in Western Energy Company's Training Center located on the north side of Castle Rock road and will begin at 7:00 PM on January 31, 2008.

Any questions or comments received at the hearing will be considered in the Department of Environmental Quality's review and decision on Western Energy Company's proposal. A decision on the proposal is expected early in 2008. You may call Chris Yde of the Department of Environmental Quality at (406) 444-4967 or send him an e-mail at cyde@mt.gov for additional information concerning the proposal.

The Department of Environmental Quality makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in the above government proceedings. Persons needing an accommodation must notify the Department by noon on January 25, 2008 to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements. You may call (406) 444-4968 or write to Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, ATTN: Ashley Eichhorn to make your request known.